TRANSFORMERS ANIMATED

BURNOUT

HE TORY

g made the ion to stay on , Optimus e and his band tobots - , Ratchet, lebee and ead - have work cut out ding Detroit human villains he increased t of the pticons. With tron now ned to full gth, the battle een the bots is om over... e Autobots try e Detroit from disaster, e surprised to a powerful ally...

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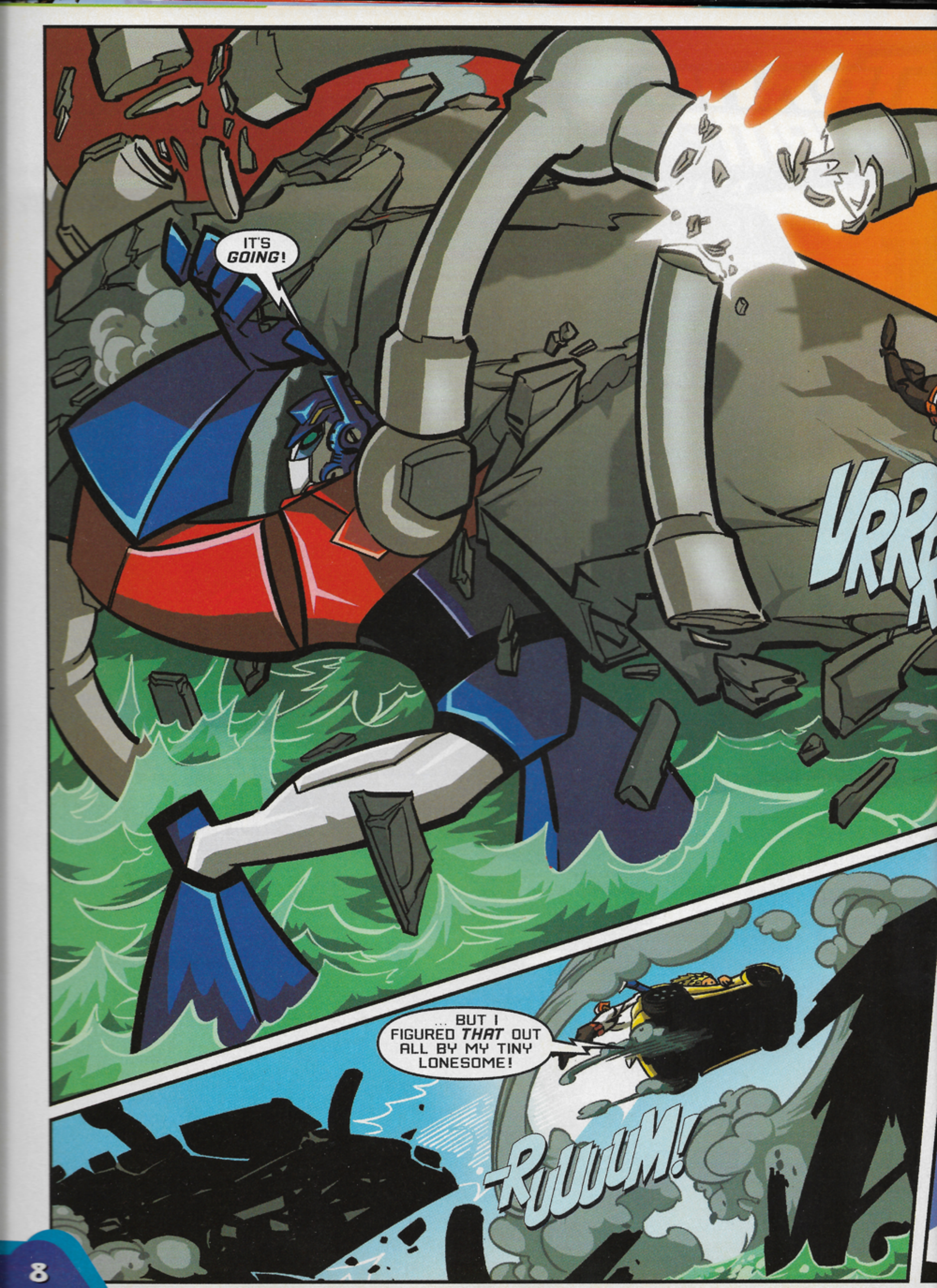
IT'S GOING!
VRRR
... BUT I FIGURED THAT OUT ALL BY MY TINY LONESOME!
-RUUUM!

NOT THAT I DON'T APPRECIATE THE HEADS-UP AN' ALL, OPTIMUS...
THERE AIN'T NO FAULT LINE UNDER DETROIT!
OH. I SEE.
WHICH MEANS...
...THIS IS NOT A NATURAL OCCURENCE!
THIS AIN'T RIGHT.
I KNOW. THE ENTIRE CITY'S FALLING DOWN AROUND US!
LOOK. EARTHQUAKES HAPPEN WHEN TECTONIC PLATES GET UP CLOSE 'N' PERSONAL ON A FAULT LINE.
SO?
UH, AIN'T THAT WHAT RATCHET SAID INNA FIRST PLACE, Y'KNOW, BEFORE YOU STUCK YOUR OAR IN, PROWL?
NO. WHAT I'M SAYING, BULKHEAD...

...IS WE'RE UNDER ATTACK!
CORRR-ECT! ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF — I'M QUAKE-MAKER, AND I... AM READY TO RUMBLE!
LETMESEE...
AH, BUT THAT'S JUST IT. YOU'LL NEVER KNOW. LONG BEFORE YOU UNDERSTAND THE WHYS AND WHEREFORES YOU'LL BE DEAD...
WOULD-BE WORLD-CONQUEROR? EMBITTERED EX-EMPLOYEE? BIG-SHOT BLACKMAILER? CAREER ASYLUM JOCKEY? TO-TAL... ...LOO-SER?
PLEASE TICK BOX AS APPLICABLE!
SKRAAA

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...DON'T HAVE THE TIME.
ZOKKT!
ACTUALLY, IT'S YOU...
...WHO'S NOW ON BORROWED TIME!
WHOP
UNH! WHO?
THE NAME'S AFTERBURN.
YOU COULD SAY, I'M THE NEW 'BOT ON THE BLOCK.

AFTERBURN?
<SIGH> HE'S DREAMY.
WELL, I GOTTA SAY...
"...HE DOES HAVE THE MOVES!"
FWIP
WHO ARE YOU?
NEW RECRUIT. I'LL EXPLAIN LATER.
THINK OF ME... AS THE ANSWER TO ALL OF YOUR PROBLEMS!
MUST DASH!
PROBLEMS? WHAT PR—
—LMNNH!
SPROK

JUST AS WELL, WHEN IT CAME TO CHOOSING AN EARTH ALT. MODE...

...I TOOK THE *OFF-ROAD* OPTION!

CRA-ACK

NO DOUBT ABOUT IT. HE'S A 'BOT AFTER MY OWN PUMP!

BUT, LIKE OPTIMUS IS ALWAYS SAYING, WE'RE A *TEAM*...

...AND WE WATCH EACH OTHER'S BACKS!

SO — *IT'S TIME FOR ACTION*!

HEY!

DID I HEAR OUR BATTLE CRY?

SUCH AS IT IS.

KER-CHOOM

I BELIEVE IT'S TIME TO *SHAKE* THINGS UP A LITTLE!
KEEP HIM BUSY. DON'T LET UP FOR A *MOMENT*!
IF HIS ATTENTION'S ON US, THE LAST FEW ORGANICS CAN GET TO SAFETY.
SOUND PLAN. BUT AT THIS RATE, THERE AIN'T GOING TO BE *ANY* OF DETROIT LEFT STANDIN'. HOW DO WE *STOP* HIM?
...WATCH AND LEARN!
ZAP
ZAK
HAVING OBSERVED OUR FOE IN ACTION, IT'S CLEAR HE NEEDS TO BE IN *DIRECT* CONTACT WITH TERRA FIRMA. SO, THE TRICK IS...
SPOOM

UFF!
CLONK
...TO KEEP HIM OFF-BALANCE...
OWWWR!
WHRRR
OFF THE GROUND...
WHUUR! I...
WHOOSH
OFF OUR HANDS...
...AND OFF TO PRISON.
...THINK I'M GONNA HURL!
HE'S GOOD, ISN'T HE?
A NATURAL. AN INSTINCTIVE TACTICIAN AND A BORN LEADER. EVERYTHING, IN FACT...
...I'M NOT!

LATER...
I THEREFORE FEEL IT WOULD BENEFIT AFTERBURN IMMENSELY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HUMANITY AND ITS CUSTOMS...

... SO THAT YOUR RECENT SUCCESSES ON EARTH CAN BE APPLIED TO DEFENDING CITIES ACROSS THE GALAXY.
WARD OF *THE ELITE GUARD*, HUH. HOW COME I NEVER HEARD OF YOU?
SPECIAL OPS. IF YOU'D HEARD OF ME, I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN DOING MY JOB!
WELL, *ULTRA MAGNUS'* RECOMMENDATION IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME. SO...

...*WELCOME TO THE TEAM, AFTERBURN!*

ELSEWHERE:
...ONCE AGAIN, THE HEROIC AUTOBOTS MANAGED TO NULLIFY THE THREAT TO DETROIT, BUT NOT BEFORE...
...ASSAILANT CALLING HIMSELF QUAKE-MAKER, WHO THEN MYSTERIOUSLY *DISAPPEARED* FROM POLICE CUSTODY...
BUSY DAY FOR THE AUTOBOTS, EH?

YEAH. SHAME THEY WON IN THE END.
DON'T BE TOO SURE ABOUT THAT, *BLITZWING*. ONE THING ABOUT EARTHQUAKES...

...THERE ARE ALWAYS *AFTERSHOCKS!*